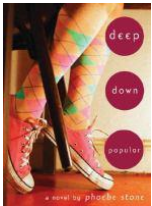


I've Got a Crush on You

Reading recommendations for young love.

Juvenile Fiction:



Deep Down Popular, Pheobe Stone, J F STO

In a small Virginia town, sixth-grader Jessie Lou Ferguson has a crush on the hugely popular Conrad Parker Smith, and when he suddenly develops a medical problem and the teacher asks Jessie Lou to help him, they become friends, to her surprise.



Rules for Secret Keeping, Lauren Barnholdt, J F BAR

Thirteen-year-old Samantha faces some stiff competition when a new friend is interested in the same boy Samantha has a crush on, and another girl starts an internet version of her business of passing secrets, unread, from one classmate to another.



Flirt Club, Cathleen Daly, J F DAL

Through notes and journal entries, best friends and self-proclaimed "drama geeks" Cisco (Izzy) and the Bean (Annie) write of the trials of middle school, as well as their efforts to attract boys by forming a Flirt Club.



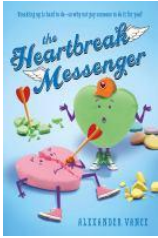
The Boy Who Owned the School, Gary Paulsen, J F PAU

Jacob Freisten, often in a fog, tries to ease through high school unnoticed; but a beautiful classmate takes notice of him and his life begins to change.



Emma-Jean Lazarus Fell in Love, Lauren Tarchis, J F TAR

Seventh-grader Emma-Jean Lazarus uses her logical, scientific mind to navigate the mysteries of the upcoming Spring Fling, her friend Colleen's secret admirer, and other love-related dilemmas.



The Heartbreak Messenger, Alexander P. Vance J F VAN

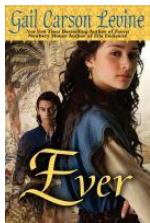
Quentin never asked to be the Heartbreak Messenger, but he couldn't pass up a moneymaking opportunity. For a small fee, he delivers break-up messages. At first, Quentin's brainchild is surprisingly successful. But as he interacts with clients, message recipients, and his best friend, Abigail, it doesn't take long for him to wonder if his own heart will remain intact.



Sweet treats & secret crushes, Lisa Greenwald, J F GRE

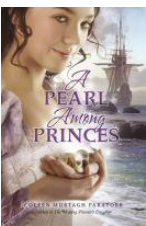
When a blizzard threatens to ruin Valentine's Day, three seventh-grade friends make and distribute fortune cookies to their lonely neighbors—and confront the secrets they've been keeping from one another.

Juvenile Genre Fiction:



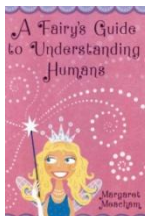
Ever, Gail Carson Levine, J SFF LEV

Fourteen-year-old Kezi and Olus, Akkan god of the winds, fall in love and together try to change her fate—to be sacrificed to a Hyte god because of a rash promise her father made—through a series of quests that might make her immortal.



A Pearl Among Princes, Coleen Murtagh Paratore, J SFF PAR

As her sixteenth birthday approaches, Gracepearl feels her deceased mother guiding her toward a decision between life on a remote, agrarian island with her childhood love, or somewhere far away with a young man in training to be a prince.



A Fairy's Guide to Understanding Humans, Margaret Meacham, J SFF MEA

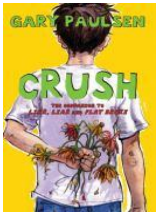
Gretta, who is making strides in her fairy godmother training, tries to help Morgan fit in at her new school as research for a book about her interactions with humans, but her own boyfriend problems get in the way.

Juvenile Series:



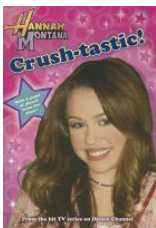
The Complicated Life of Claudia Christina Cortez: Boy Trouble, Diana Gallagher, J SER COM

Claudia has had a crush on Brad Turino for as long as she can remember. But when cute new boy Rusty Alvarez moves to town and asks her out on her first date, she doesn't know what to do!



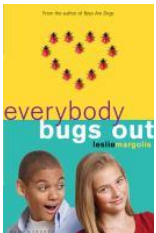
Crush: The Theory, Practice, and Destructive Properties of Love, Gary Paulsen, J SER LIA

Afraid to actually ask Tina Zabinski for a date, eighth-grader Kevin spends most of his time theorizing about love and romance and observing and analyzing male/female interaction.



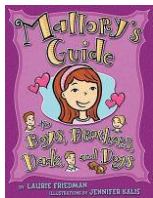
Hannah Montana: Crush-Tastic!, Beth Beechwood, J SER HAN

Hannah Montana has a secret love for a boy at her school.



Annabelle Unleashed: Everybody Bugs Out, Leslie Margolis, J SER ANN

Sixth-grader Annabelle realizes that she has a crush on Oliver, with whom she is doing a science fair project, just before the Valentine's Day dance--and just before her friend Claire announces her crush on him.



Mallory's Guide to Boys, Brothers, Dads, and Dogs, Laurie Friedman, J SER MAL

Ten-year-old Mallory's crush on J.T., a boy in her older brother's class, gets her in trouble with her teacher, her family, and her friends but no matter what she does, J.T. does not seem interested in her.



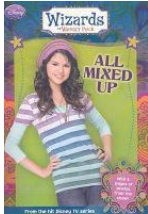
Mackenzie Blue: The Secret Crush, Tina Wells, J SER MAC

The continuing adventures of seventh-grader Mackenzie Blue as she tries to juggle her time and attention between a developing crush, the school musical, her family, and her friends.



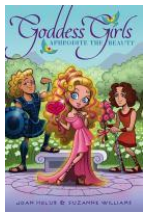
The Baby-Sitters Club: Stacy's Big Crush, Ann Martin, J SER BAB

The season is spring, and wedding bells ring! At least, that's the thing that's on Stacey's mind. When a student teacher arrives at Stoneybrook Middle School and is going to be Stacey's substitute math teacher, Stacey can't pay attention in class! Wes is cute, but he's 22! But then Stacey realizes that not every romance will work.



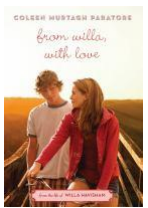
Wizards of Waverly Place: All Mixed Up, Heather Alexander, J SER WIZ

Justin Russo decides to join a baseball team to get his crush, Kari, to notice him. But when his dad finds out that Justin used a spell to become the star pitcher of the team, he forbids him from using any more magic at the games.



Goddess Girls: Aphrodite the Beauty, Joan Holub & Suzanne Williams, J SER GOD

After giving Athena a makeover Aphrodite becomes jealous of her friend, but she focuses on figuring out how to help a mortal win a race against Atalanta, which will result in either their marriage or his death.



From Willa, With Love: From the Life of Willa Havisham, Coleen Murtagh Paratore, J SER WED

When her best friend Mariel and boyfriend JFK spend the summer away from Cape Cod, sophomore-to-be Willa, who works part-time in her family's inn, is unprepared for new romance and other surprises.



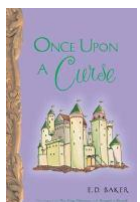
Once Upon a Vampire, Ellie O'Ryan, J SER WIZ

When a new sandwich shop opens up on Waverly Place, the Russos are convinced the competition's going to be fierce. But it turns out they are in for a surprise. The new owners don't even like sandwiches-- they're vampires and they're out for blood! Soon Waverly Place is in the midst of a monstrous showdown, and when Justin falls for the vampire daughter, Juliet, he really puts his neck on the line. Things get even more complicated when Alex realizes that her boyfriend, Dean, isn't the boy of her dreams.



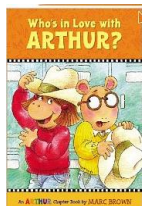
Thirteen, Lauren Myracle, J SER ELE

Winnie's thirteenth year brings many joys and challenges as she negotiates her relationship with her first boyfriend and realizes that change is inevitable in her friends, family, and even herself.



Once Upon a Curse, E.D. Baker, J SER TAL

Esmeralda, who is both a princess and a powerful witch, must travel back in time to end a family curse or risk losing her true love, Prince Eadric, forever.



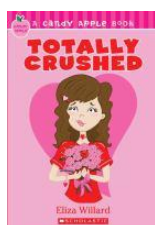
Who's In Love With Arthur?, Marc Brown, J SER ART

Arthur and Francine are a square-dancing duo in gym class. When Muffy tries to switch partners (she's saddled with Binky Barnes!), Francine refuses to trade. Francine complains that Francine doesn't want to share Arthur. Binky puts two and two together and spreads the word-Arthur and Francine are in love! Is it true?!



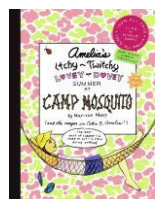
Cloudy with a Chance of Boys, Megan McDonald, J SER SIS

While older sister Alex is trying to orchestrate a perfect first kiss with her heartthrob and younger sister Joey prefers frogs to boys, Stevie Reel wonders if she is ready for a boyfriend while being pursued by a new boy in her class.



Totally Crushed, Eliza Willard, J SER CAN

Annabel is thrilled to find a red carnation at her locker on Valentine's Day. But when it turns out to be from her best guy friend Sam, things get messy - fast! Annabel could never like Sam THAT way. But her best friend Phoebe does! Annabel's perfect Valentine's Day is turning into a perfect disaster. Who knew a little red carnation could make life so complicated?



Amelia's itchy-twitchy, lovey-dovey summer at Camp Mosquito, Marissa Moss, J SER AME

Despite the hard mattresses, biting bugs, and exhausting hikes, Amelia finally begins to enjoy her time at sleepaway camp with the help of her new friends, but when she gets her first serious crush on a boy named Luke, Amelia is stunned to find out that Carly likes him too and so must find a way to win his heart without losing her newest best friend.



Recipe for trouble, Sheryl, Berk, J SER CUP

To Lexi, a new school year means back to baking with her BFFs in the cupcake club. But the club president, Kylie, is mixing things up by inviting new members. And Lexi is in for a no-so-sweet surprise when she is cast in the school's production of Romeo and Juliet. If only she could be as confident onstage as she is in the kitchen. The icing on the cake: her secret crush is playing Romeo. Sounds like a recipe for trouble. Can the girls' friendship stand the heat, or will the cupcake club go up in smoke?



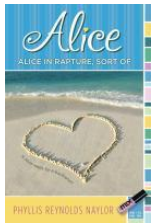
Taking the cake!, Lisa Papademetriou, J SER CON

Hayley and her little sister, Chloe, have just moved into their grandmother's house with their mom, who recently divorced their dad and has just been laid off from her job. Helping out at her grandmother's tea shop, Hayley discovers she has a knack for baking, but her newfound talent seems to have cost her her best friend, Artie. Now Hayley's crushing on someone who might just be Artie's new boyfriend. This mess really takes the cake!



Sleeping Beauty: The One Who Took a Really Long Nap, Wendy Mass, J SER TWI

The girl's been sleeping for a hundred years. The boy's got issues of his own. There are two sides to every story...



Alice in Rapture, Sort Of. Phyllis Reynolds Naylor, J SER ALI

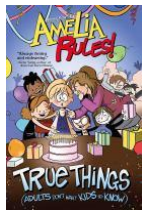
According to Pamela's cousin in New Jersey, the worst thing that can happen to a girl is to start seventh grade without a boyfriend. So Alice is glad that she and Patrick are going together. But Patrick the boyfriend is a lot more complicated than Patrick the friend. What's an appropriate gift for Alice to give him for his birthday?

Juvenile Graphic Novels:



The Phantom of the Opera, adapted by Joeming Dunn, G GN GRA

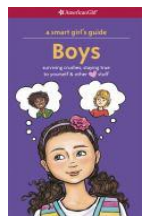
A graphic novel based on the Gaston Leroux classic, in which a disfigured musical genius, living under the Paris Opera House, uses music to win the love of a beautiful opera singer.



Amelia Rules: True Things (Adults Don't Want Kids to Know), Jimmy Gownley, J GN AME

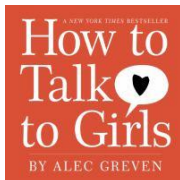
Amelia Louise McBride's eleventh birthday party is fabulous, but soon her friends are fighting all the time, she gets a terrible report card, and when she summons the courage to tell a boy how she feels about him, she learns why it is called a "crush."

Juvenile Non-Fiction:



A smart girl's guide: boys (Revised) : surviving crushes, staying true to yourself, and other [Love] stuff, Nancy Holyoke, J 305.23 HOL

The book explores being friends, going out, breaking up, being yourself, and much more. Letters from girls and advice on boys, along with quizzes and tips, help a girl get her brain back on track when her heart's in a wreck.



How to talk to girls, Alec Greven, J 155.432 GRE

Leave it to a nine-year-old to get down to the basics about how to win victory with a girl. How to talk to girls is for boys of all ages—from eight to eighty—and the girls they like. So read this book and then you're ready. Good luck!

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